

fill easily or quickly and that it would undermine confidence in the regime at a time when the Ugandan economy was in need of foreign capital and expertise.

Economic repercussions

In fact, the continuing campaign of Africanization has had serious repercussions in Uganda's economy. The departure of the Asian community has produced an acute shortage of skilled manpower. Trade has declined and the supply and distribution systems have been disrupted. In Kampala and the main towns, the majority of the shops and small businesses have closed. Unemployment has increased. Tourism has disappeared as an important source of foreign exchange. Foreign investment has declined drastically. Meanwhile, military expenditures continue to absorb a high percentage of resources. But although the decision was questionable in economic terms, at least for the short run, it was undoubtedly popular with most Africans in Uganda.

World reaction to the expulsion order was swift and, in the main, condemnatory, particularly when it became clear that President Amin would not extend his November 8 deadline and when he announced that thousands of Asians who held Ugandan citizenship would be included as well. It was, however, difficult for African leaders to comment. Africanization policies of various types had been initiated in Kenya and Tanzania, as well as in most newly-independent countries on the continent, with the encouragement and support of their black African populations and while there may have been disagreement with Amin's methods, there was considerable popular sympathy for his aims in those countries where the control of a significant portion of its national economy remained in non-national or non-African hands. But the racist overtones of General Amin's actions also embarrassed many Africans.

World's reaction mainly critical but comment difficult for African leaders

President Julius Nyerere of Tanzania gave voice to this embarrassment in a speech on August 21, when he referred to the human problem created when thousands of people were suddenly forced to leave their homes. He also placed the problem in an African context when he added, "Sometimes we in Africa adopt the attitude that we have suffered so long it will be good for other people to suffer and see what it is like". "But", he continued, "all African countries are liable to be asked questions about what the governments or regimes of other free African states are doing".

Canada's response

Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau on August 24 described the expulsion order as "one which we deplore and regret" and announced that Canada would admit a number of Asians forced out of Uganda on an emergency basis. A special team of Canadian officials was sent to Kampala to accelerate the processing of applications and commercial aircraft were chartered to bring the successful applicants to Canada. The operation was completed on November 8. Visas were issued to more than 6,000 persons and, by December 1, almost 5,000 had arrived in Canada. For the most part they were successful professional people, entrepreneurs and businessmen and, on December 5, Manpower and Immigration Minister Robert Andras announced that nearly half the Asians who had registered for employment had found positions.

President Amin has made it clear that the expulsion of non-citizen Asians was only the first campaign in a larger "economic war" aimed at placing all economic activity in the hands of black Africans. In line with this approach, he announced in November that British tea plantations in Western Uganda would be nationalized. Although British investment in Uganda is considerably less than that of the Asians before their expulsion, it occupies an im-

Idi Amin revels in peasant oratory and barrack-room philosophy. His tribal background and military career gave him a thorough training in both. Essentially, he is a product of African village politics and colonial parade-ground pugnacity. . . .

He is a man of immense energy and no little physical courage. Despite his accumulation of enemies, he scorns personal security, preferring to drive around the streets in an open jeep. He puts in an

average 14-hour day and travels several thousand miles each week to talk to the people. Popularity with the ordinary people means much to Amin. He has the peasant's contempt for the pretentiousness of other social orders. . . . (Excerpts from study of Amin by Christopher Munnion of Britain's Daily Telegraph, in the New York Times Magazine, November 12, 1972. Munnion was expelled from Uganda in September, and is now based in Salisbury, Rhodesia.)